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DOCTOR
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this issue
DOC GETS A NEW
CLOAK!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: DR. STRANGE, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!
CLOAKS AND DANGERS!
" THE WORST IGNORANCE IS ALWAYS THE IGNORANCE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AWARE OF. MY CLOAK OF LEVITATION HAS SERVED ME WELL MORE TIMES THAN I CARE TO THINK--"
"--BUT NOW, WHEN IT BECOMES TIME TO REPAIR ITS TORN FABRIC AFTER MY DISASTROUS BATTLE WITH KHAT*--
"--ALTHOUGH I AM DR. STRANGE, WHOM NO LIVING BEING CAN CONTEST IN SORCEROUS POWER, LORE OR SKILL, I FIND MYSELF REALIZING THAT I KNOW SO VERY, VERY LITTLE."
* IF YOU MISSED LAST ISSUE, SHAME ON YOU!

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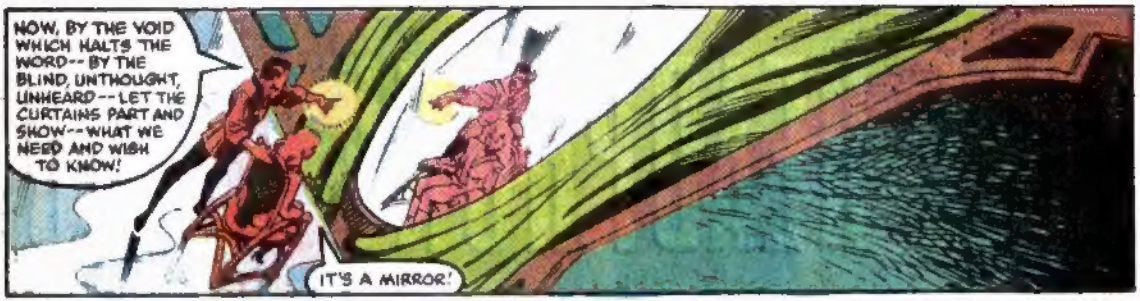
NOTHING! THE GRIMOIRES AND MYSTIC CODICES REFER CONSTANTLY TO THE CLOAK --ONE OF THE WEAPONS AND EMBLEMS OF THE ENEMY OF DORMAMMU, AND THE CHAMPION OF LIGHT--BUT NOT ONE SAYS WHERE OR BY WHOM IT WAS FASHIONED!
THE ANCIENT ONE GAVE ME THE CLOAK AFTER I FACED DORMAMMU THE FIRST TIME. AND WITH MY TEACHER'S DEATH, HE HAS PASSED BEYOND THE RANGE OF MY QUESTIONS. WHY DID I NEVER--?
BUT BLAME IS POINTLESS. I AM HERE TO MEND, NOT TEAR MORE.
THOUGH I AM DESIGNATED "SORCERER SUPREME"--MY RECENT ENCOUNTERS WITH DR. BERENSON AND THE DEMON KHAT DID MUCH TO SHAKE MY CONFIDENCE.
AND THOUGH THE CLOAK MAY BE OLDER THAN EVEN I HAD GUESSED, I SHOULD NOT DOUBT AND SECOND GUESS MY OWN SKILL TO REPAIR IT!
AND AS STEPHEN STRANGE'S HANDS CHASE LIGHT ACROSS THE ROOM--
--AS WORDS OF POWER, OF ACTIVATION AND RENEWAL WRITTEN BEFORE THE EARTH COOLED ARE SPOKEN--
--AS AN EX-SURGEON STRUGGLES WITH SOUNDS NEVER MEANT FOR HUMAN THROATS--
--AS HOURS OF SOUND AND DAYS OF LIGHT ROLL FROM THIS MAN--
--SLOWLY, THE WORK IS DONE.
THERE! THE FABRIC IS WHOLE ONCE MORE--AND SO ITS FULL POWER SHOULD BEGIN TO FLOW BACK INTO IT!

DR. STRANGE, I--OH! YOU'RE BUSY--!
I'M DONE NOW, TOPAZ. WHAT DID YOU WANT?
YOU'RE IRRITATED WITH ME--I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE--I'M SORRY--!
PLEASE, TOPAZ--SPEAK.
I WAS THINKING--ABOUT MY PROBLEM--?
YES--WE SHOULDN'T PUT OFF THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING PART OF YOUR SOUL ANY LONGER! THE URGENT DISTRACTIONS OF RECENT DAYS HAVE PASSED.
REALLY? THAT'S GREAT! OH, STEPHEN, YOU'RE--
TOPAZ! CONTROL YOURSELF!
I'M SORRY--IT'S TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE--WITHOUT THE HALF OF MY SOUL THAT CONTAINED SELF-RESTRAINT --TO SWING FROM ONE FEELING TO ANOTHER--
--IF I DIDN'T HAVE YOU, STEPHEN--!
THEN THE SOONER WE START THE BETTER.
NOW COME--WE MUST SET OUR MINDS ON A JOURNEY.
SINCE A SOUL IS A FRAGILE THING, AND WANDERS AMID SHADOWS OF SPACE RATHER THAN SORCERY--
--MORE UNUSUAL TECHNIQUES ARE CALLED FOR.
STEPHEN--I'VE NEVER BEEN IN THIS PART OF THE HOUSE BEFORE--!

NO, I EXPECT NOT.
WELCOME, TOPAZ, TO THE CHAMBER OF EXTROSPECTION.
THE ORB OF AGAMOTTO FOR THE MOST PART SUFFICES ME, AND SO I DO NOT COME HERE OFTEN.
I-- SEE.
WHAT'S BEHIND THESE CURTAINS, STEPHEN?
NO!!
AS YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE, DON'T LOOK BEHIND THERE!
I'M SORRY AGAIN, STEPHEN, IT'S SO HARD--
IT'S ALL RIGHT. THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD KNOW. COME OVER HERE.
THIS SHOULD BE THE PORTAL BY WHICH WE MAY SEE SOMETHING. I NEED YOU TO SIT HERE.
OF COURSE, STEPHEN.


NOW, BY THE VOID WHICH HALTS THE WORD-- BY THE BLIND, UNTHOUGHT, UNHEARD-- LET THE CURTAINS PART AND SHOW-- WHAT WE NEED AND WISH TO KNOW!
IT'S A MIRROR!

YES-- BUT LOOK AT THE MIRROR AND NOT WHAT IT SHOWS, TOPAZ.
I DON'T UNDER-- BUT THERE'S SOMETHING--

IT'S SO COLD OUT THERE-- COLD AND-- AND ANGRY--!
THAT'S IT, TOPAZ! KEEP ON! KEEP ON!

SOMETHING'S BEGINNING TO FORM-- BUT WHAT?
DR. STRANGE--

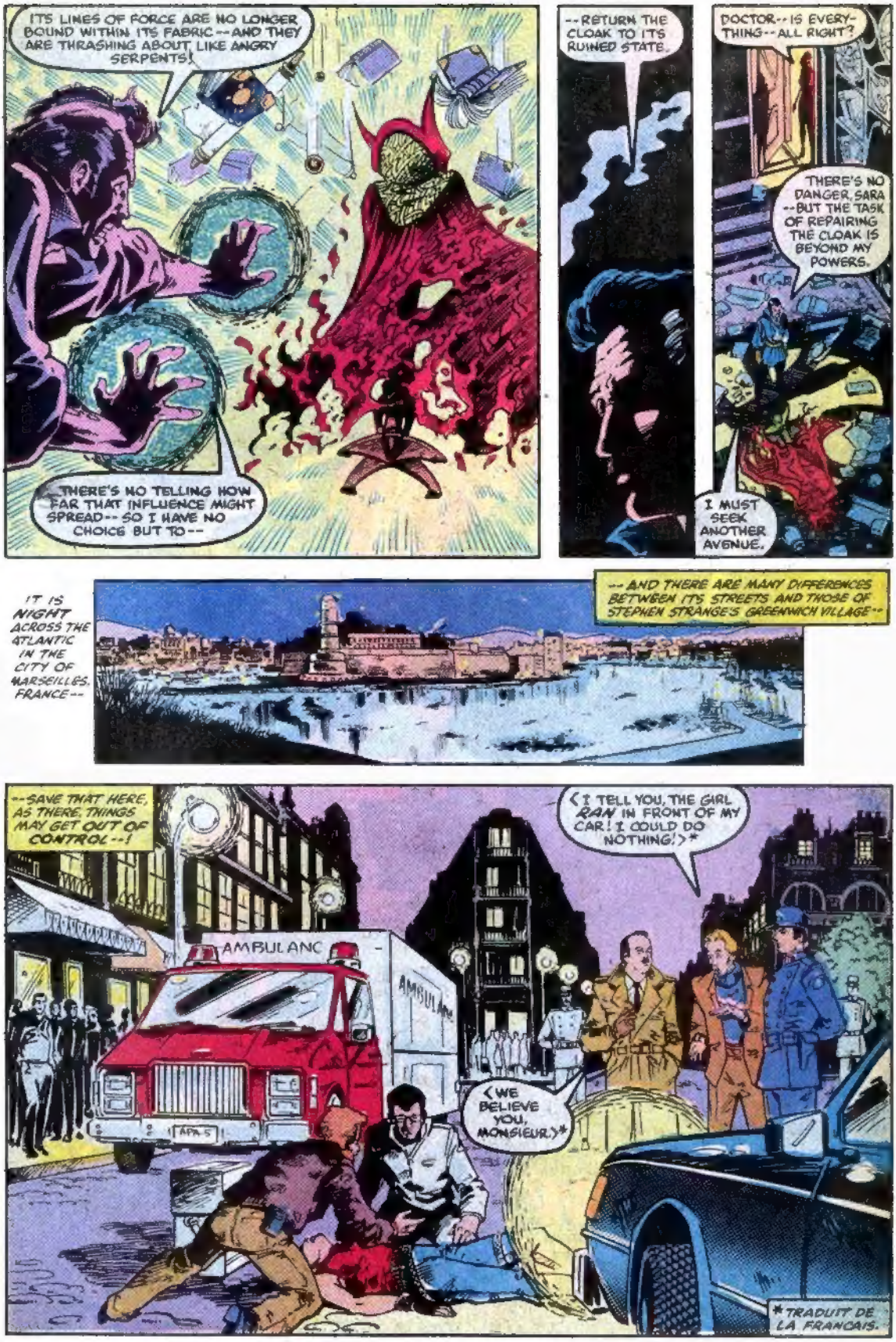
DR. STRANGE!!
THAT'S SARA-- CALLING FROM DOWNSTAIRS!
DR. STRANGE, I DON'T LIKE IT-- IT SCARES ME --I DON'T LIKE IT, DOCTOR-- PLEASE--

SOMETHING'S GOING ON! THIS WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL LATER --IT WILL REQUIRE MY FULL ATTENTION.
BUT--
--NOT AGAIN-- NOT ANOTHER DELAY!

DR. STRANGE! HURRY!
WHAT IS IT, SARA?

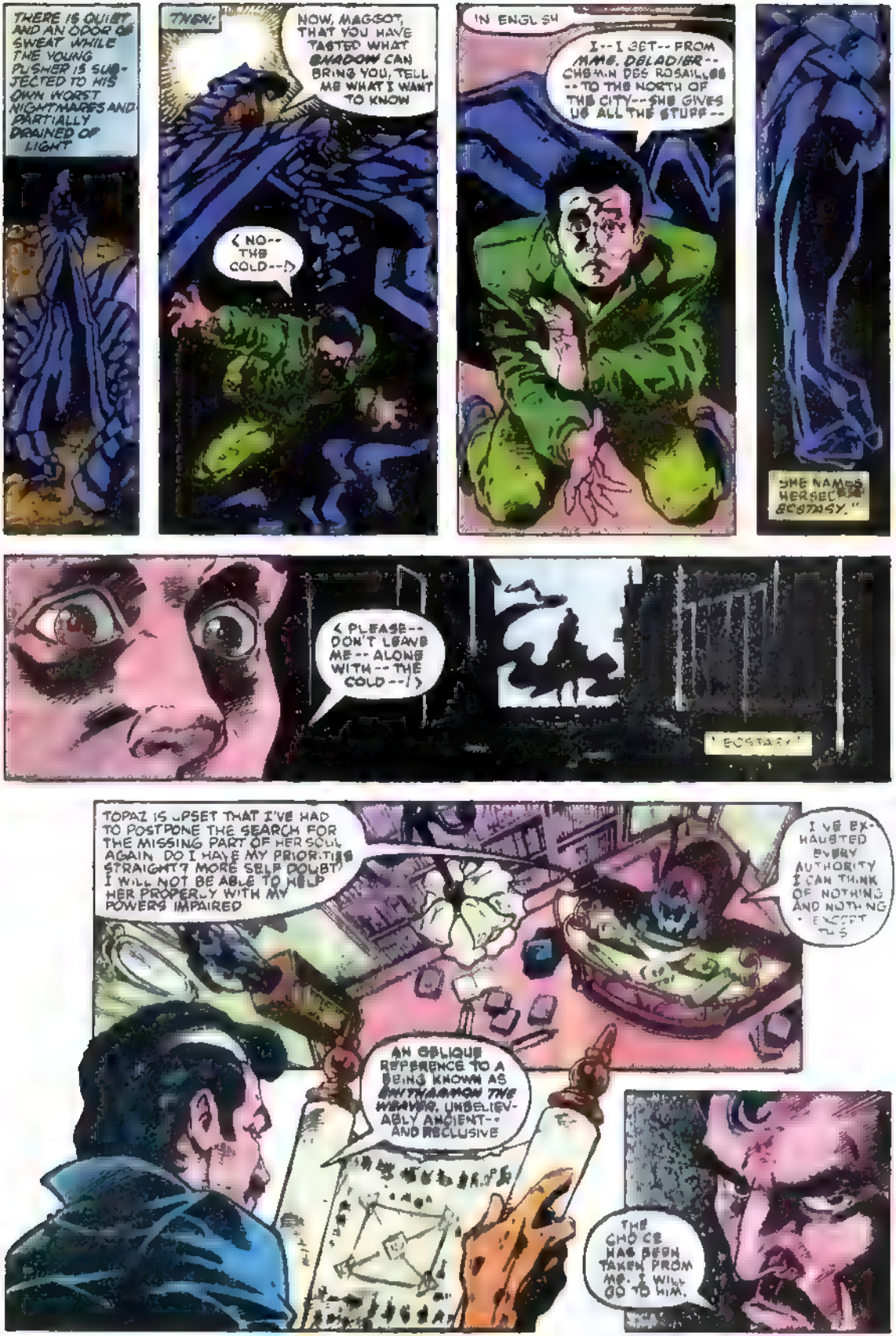
KRAK BUMP SMASH
I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA, DOCTOR-- BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE ALL-STAR WRESTLING IN YOUR VERY OWN STUDY!

DEMONS OF DENAK!
WHATEVER FORCE IS CAUSING THIS MADNESS, IT'S INCREASING BY THE SECOND!
THERE *IS* ONE POSSIBLE SOURCE FOR THE PHENOMENON-- BUT I HOPE I'M WRONG!
BUT LET THE *EYE OF AGAMOTTO* REVEAL THE TRUTH IN ANY CASE!
AS I FEARED--THE LEVITATIONAL POWER OF THE CLOAK ITSELF IS GOING WILD!

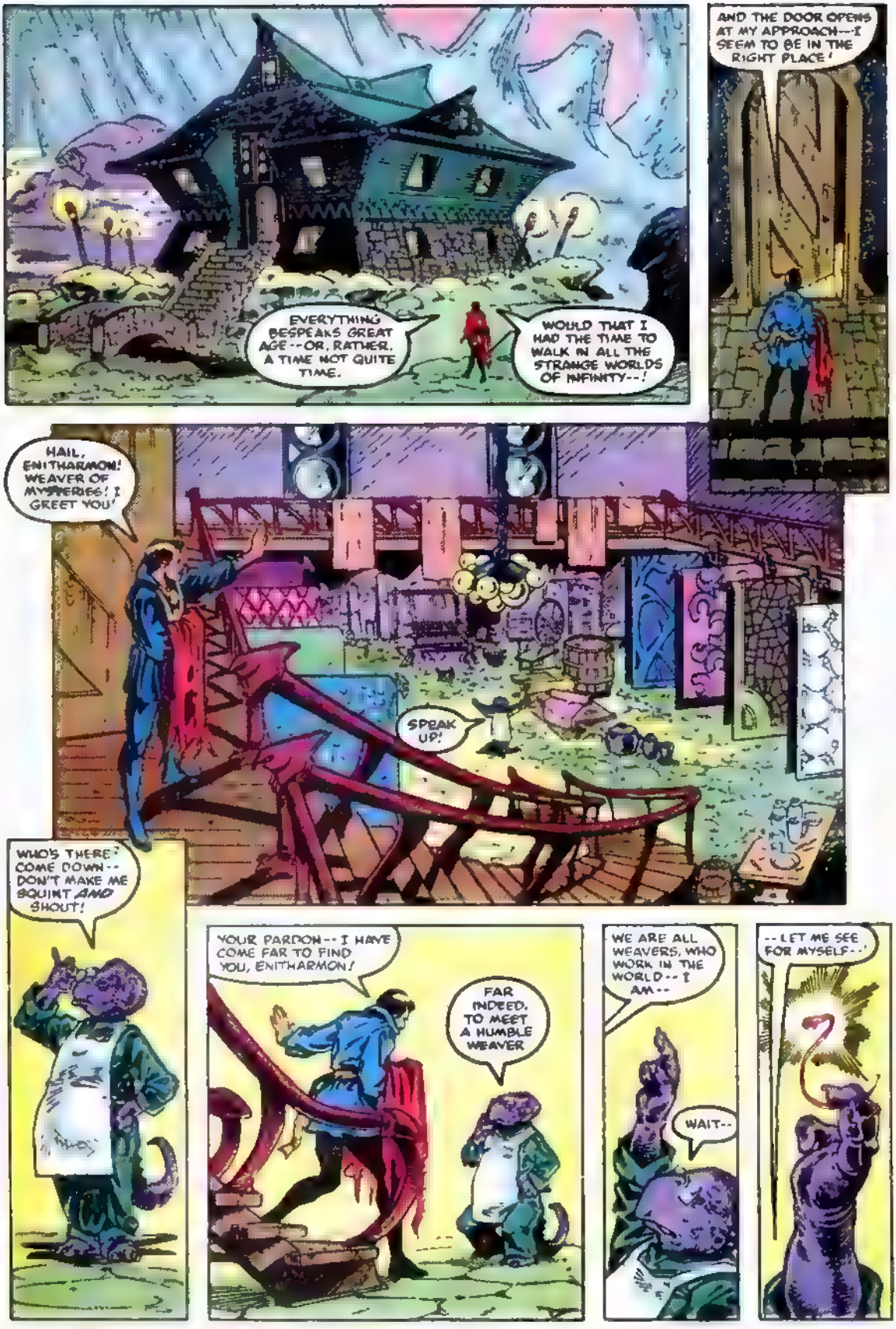

ITS LINES OF FORCE ARE NO LONGER BOUND WITHIN ITS FABRIC--AND THEY ARE THRASHING ABOUT LIKE ANGRY SERPENTS!
THERE'S NO TELLING HOW FAR THAT INFLUENCE MIGHT SPREAD--SO I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO--
--RETURN THE CLOAK TO ITS RUINED STATE.
DOCTOR--IS EVERYTHING--ALL RIGHT?
THERE'S NO DANGER, SARA--BUT THE TASK OF REPAIRING THE CLOAK IS BEYOND MY POWERS.
I MUST SEEK ANOTHER AVENUE.
IT IS NIGHT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC IN THE CITY OF MARSEILLES, FRANCE--
--AND THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ITS STREETS AND THOSE OF STEPHEN STRANGE'S GREENWICH VILLAGE--
--SAVE THAT HERE, AS THERE, THINGS MAY GET OUT OF CONTROL--!
<I TELL YOU, THE GIRL RAN IN FRONT OF MY CAR! I COULD DO NOTHING!>*
AMBULANC
AMBULANC
APA 5
<WE BELIEVE YOU, MONSIEUR.>*
*TRADUIT DE LA FRANCAIS.

SHE'S DEAD--BUT IT WASN'T THE IMPACT THAT KILLED HER.
DRUGS, THEN?
I DON'T KNOW.
SHE HAD A MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION--A HEART ATTACK--COUPLED WITH MASSIVE CONVULSIONS. NO STREET DRUG I KNOW WOULD DO THAT--
--AND WHY WOULD SOMEONE POISON A YOUNG GIRL LIKE THAT?
YES. WHY?
I DON'T KNOW ANY BETTER THAN YOU, MY FRIEND.
HE WAS TOO LATE TO SAVE HER.
HE HAD FOLLOWED HER THROUGH THE SHADOWS--LETTING HER LEAD HIM TO HIS QUARRY--THE SOURCE OF THE POISON SHE WAS GIVING HERSELF--
--AND SHE DIED INSTEAD, BEFORE HIS EYES.
IT IS A FATE HE HAD ESCAPED--FOR WHEN HE HAD BEEN INJECTED WITH A STRANGE DRUG, HE DID NOT DIE--BUT ALONG WITH THE GIRL NAMED DAGGER HAD BECOME AN INSTRUMENT OF SUPERHUMAN POWER--AND HE HAD VOWED INHUMAN VENGEANCE ON ALL WHO DEAL IN ILLICIT DRUGS.
DAGGER'S NEED FOR A TASTE OF "NORMAL" HAS TEMPORARILY LEFT HIM TO HUNT ALONE. WITHOUT DAGGER'S LIGHT TO FEED AND APPEASE HIS DARKNESS, HE WONDERS HOW LONG HE CAN CONTROL THE HUNGER WITHIN.
HIS ONLY NAME NOW IS CLOAK
AND THERE SHALL BE A RECKONING.

〈BUT I TELL YOU IT'S TRUE, JEAN-PIERRE! THE MOST FANTASTIC HIGH YOU'VE EVER HAD--AND IT'S LEGAL!〉
VIDEO
VIDE
〈THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE--HOW CAN IT BE LEGAL? YOU'RE LYING--!〉
〈NEVER! YOU SEE, THE COPS CAN ONLY BAN A DRUG ONCE THEY KNOW WHAT IT IS! THEY HAVE TO PASS A LAW SAYING "SUCH-AND-SUCH IS ILLEGAL"!〉
〈BUT THIS-- THIS IS SO NEW THAT THEY CAN'T BUST YOU FOR IT! THE COPS HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THIS STUFF!〉
〈BUT-- IS IT DANGEROUS?〉
〈OH, COME ON! I USE IT ALL THE TIME! AND WOULDN'T YOU PAY A LITTLE MORE FOR A TREMENDOUS LEGAL BUZZ?〉
〈WELL, I--〉
〈--I GUESS SO--〉
STOP!
DIABLE!
YOU--GO! VA T'EN!
BUT YOU, MY LITTLE MURDERER--
NON-- JE T'EN PRIE--!
--YOU WILL TASTE THE FRUITS OF YOUR EFFORTS!


THERE IS QUIET AND AN ODOR OF SWEAT WHILE THE YOUNG PUSHER IS SUBJECTED TO HIS OWN WORST NIGHTMARES AND PARTIALLY DRAINED OF LIGHT
THEN:
NOW, MAGGOT, THAT YOU HAVE TASTED WHAT SHADOW CAN BRING YOU, TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW
< NO-- THE COLD--!>
IN ENGLISH
I--I GET-- FROM MME. DELADIER-- CHEMIN DES ROSAILLES -- TO THE NORTH OF THE CITY--SHE GIVES US ALL THE STUFF--
SHE NAMES HERSELF "ECSTASY."
< PLEASE-- DON'T LEAVE ME-- ALONE WITH-- THE COLD--!>
'ECSTASY'
TOPAZ IS UPSET THAT I'VE HAD TO POSTPONE THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING PART OF HER SOUL AGAIN. DO I HAVE MY PRIORITIES STRAIGHT? MORE SELF DOUBT? I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HELP HER PROPERLY WITH MY POWERS IMPAIRED
I'VE EXHAUSTED EVERY AUTHORITY I CAN THINK OF NOTHING AND NOTHING EXCEPT THIS
AN OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO A BEING KNOWN AS ENITHARMON THE WEAVER. UNBELIEVABLY ANCIENT-- AND RECLUSIVE
THE CHOICE HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM ME. I WILL GO TO HIM.

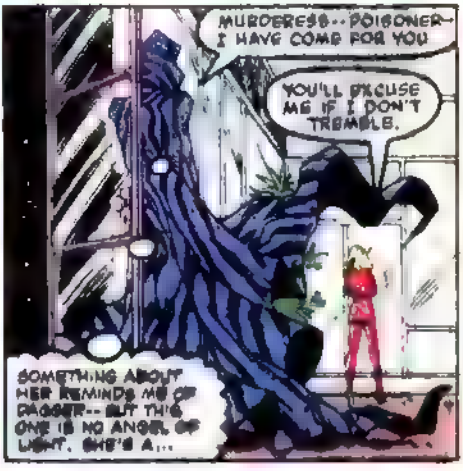
HE RISES INTO THE MAP OF LIGHT HIS MIND MUST TAKE--
--AND SLOWLY SPEAKS A SPELL HE HAS NEVER SPOKEN--
--IN A LANGUAGE WHOSE EXISTENCE HE NEVER SUSPECTED. THE UNKNOWN OPENS TO HIM.
HE BREATHES DEEPLY--
--AND ENTERS.
A WORLD-- STRANGE ENOUGH, BUT WITH EARTH AND SKY--
--AND NOT UNBEAUTIFUL
AND THERE MUST BE THE HOUSE OF HIM WHOM I SEEK.


EVERYTHING BESPEAKS GREAT AGE--OR, RATHER, A TIME NOT QUITE TIME.
WOULD THAT I HAD THE TIME TO WALK IN ALL THE STRANGE WORLDS OF INFINITY--!
AND THE DOOR OPENS AT MY APPROACH--I SEEM TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE!
HAIL, ENITHARMON! WEAVER OF MYSTERIES! I GREET YOU!
SPEAK UP!
WHO'S THERE? COME DOWN--DON'T MAKE ME SQUINT AND SHOUT!
YOUR PARDON--I HAVE COME FAR TO FIND YOU, ENITHARMON!
FAR INDEED, TO MEET A HUMBLE WEAVER
WE ARE ALL WEAVERS, WHO WORK IN THE WORLD--I AM--
WAIT--
--LET ME SEE FOR MYSELF--

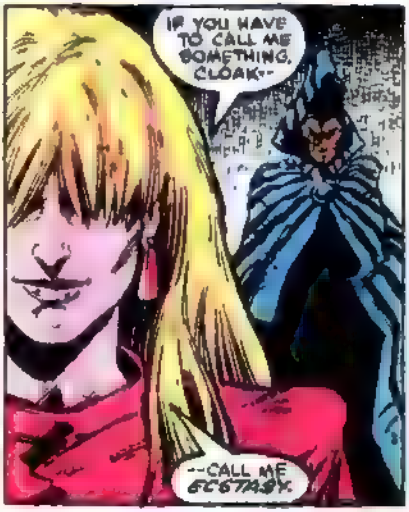
UM--BY YOUR LIFE-THREAD YOU ARE FROM THE DIMENSION SOME CALL EDEN --HOME OF THE GREAT CELESTIALS--
--AND OF OLD BASTION AGAINST THE DREAD DORMAMMU! AGAMOTTO SPOKE HIGHLY OF THE PLACE! THUS I AM AT YOUR SERVICE, WANDERER!
THANK YOU--
--FOR I FEAR THAT NONE SAVE YOU COULD HELP ME WITH THIS TASK!
AH YES. A GRIEVOUS HURT TO A FABRIC OF FINE WEAVE! HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
IN MYSTIC BATTLE--I WAS REMISS IN MY VIGILANCE.
THIS--THIS CLOAK I REMEMBER! ONE FAR GREATER THAN I WOVE THIS--ONE I MET BUT ONCE--!
YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED, WANDERER, TO LET SO PRECIOUS A TREASURE BE HURT!
I AM.
AND YOU WANT IT REPAIRED, I TAKE IT.
CAN YOU DO IT, MASTER WEAVER?
IT WILL TAKE TIME--AND I WILL NAME MY PRICE TO YOU LATER.
THANK YOU.
IN THE MEANTIME--WHY DON'T YOU LOOK AROUND? IF YOU ARE THE SCHOLAR I PERCEIVE YOU TO BE, YOU'LL FIND MUCH TO INTEREST YOU--!

THE HOUSE SITS AT THE END OF A PRIVATE ROAD OVERLOOKING MARSEILLES. FROM THE WINDOW THE CITY IS SEEN AS A STARRY CONSTELLATION--

SHE HAS STOOD THERE LOOKING OUT FOREVER, AS IF THE SKY AND THE EARTH TURNED AROUND WITH HER AT THE CENTER. HER EYES ARE OPEN-- BUT THEY FOCUS ON NOTHING.

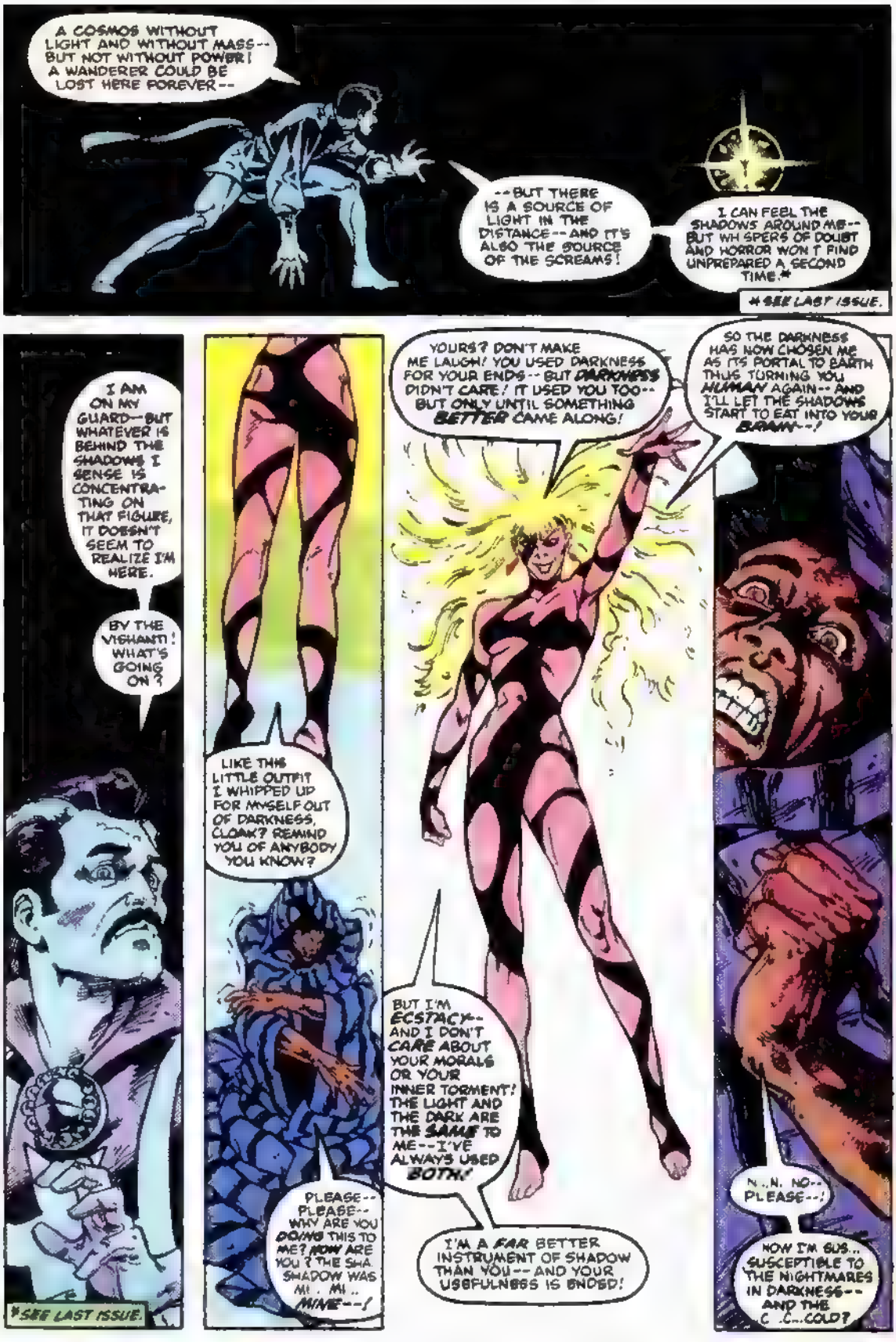

MURDERESS--POISONER-- I HAVE COME FOR YOU
YOU'LL EXCUSE ME IF I DON'T TREMBLE.
SOMETHING ABOUT HER REMINDS ME OF DAGGER-- BUT THIS ONE IS NO ANGEL OF LIGHT. SHE'S A...

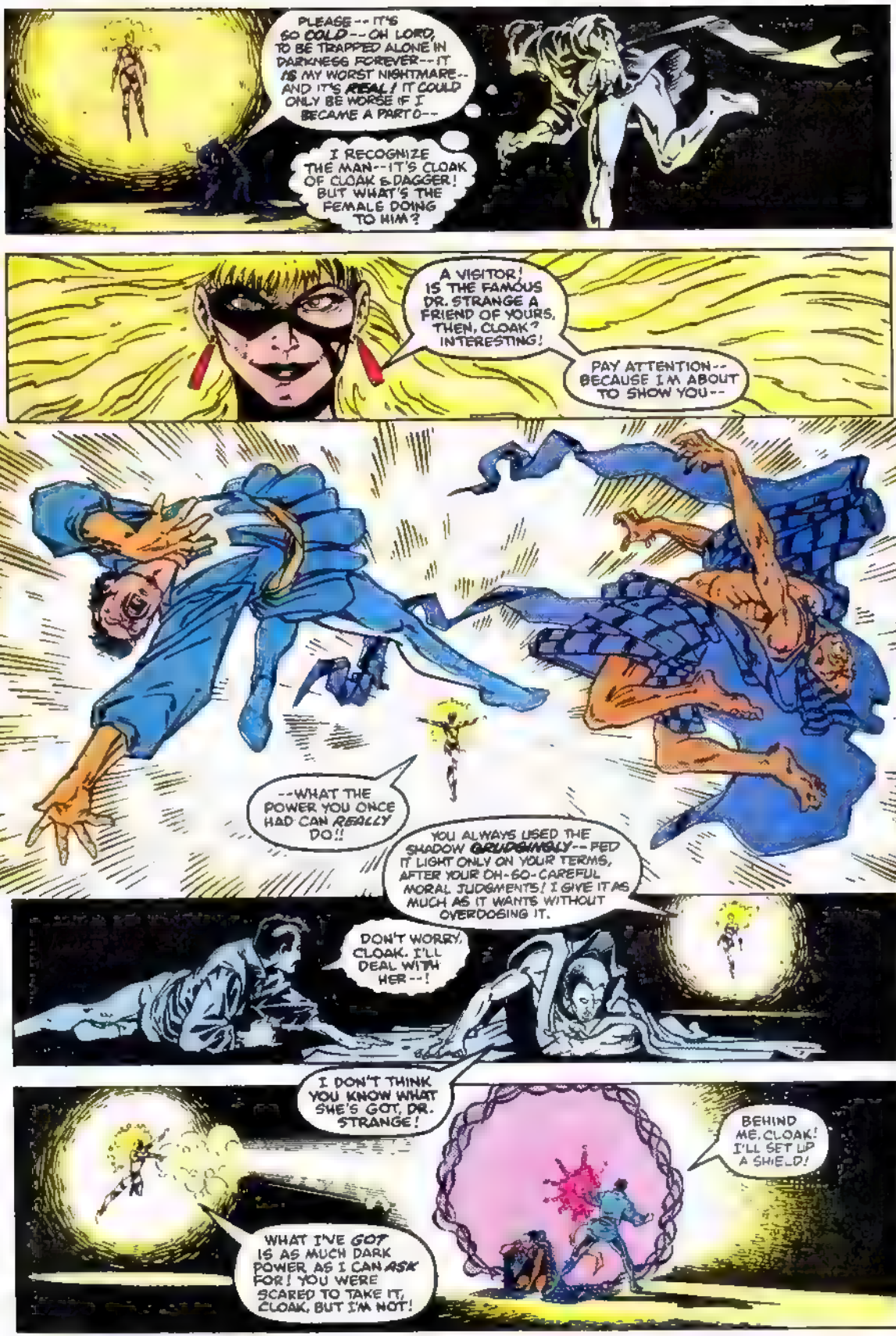
I'VE GIVEN NOBODY ANYTHING THEY DID NOT WANT, LITTLE CLOAK--YES, I KNOW OF YOU AND IT'S ALL PERFECTLY LEGAL
THOSE ARGUMENTS DON'T WORK WITH ME, MONSTER.

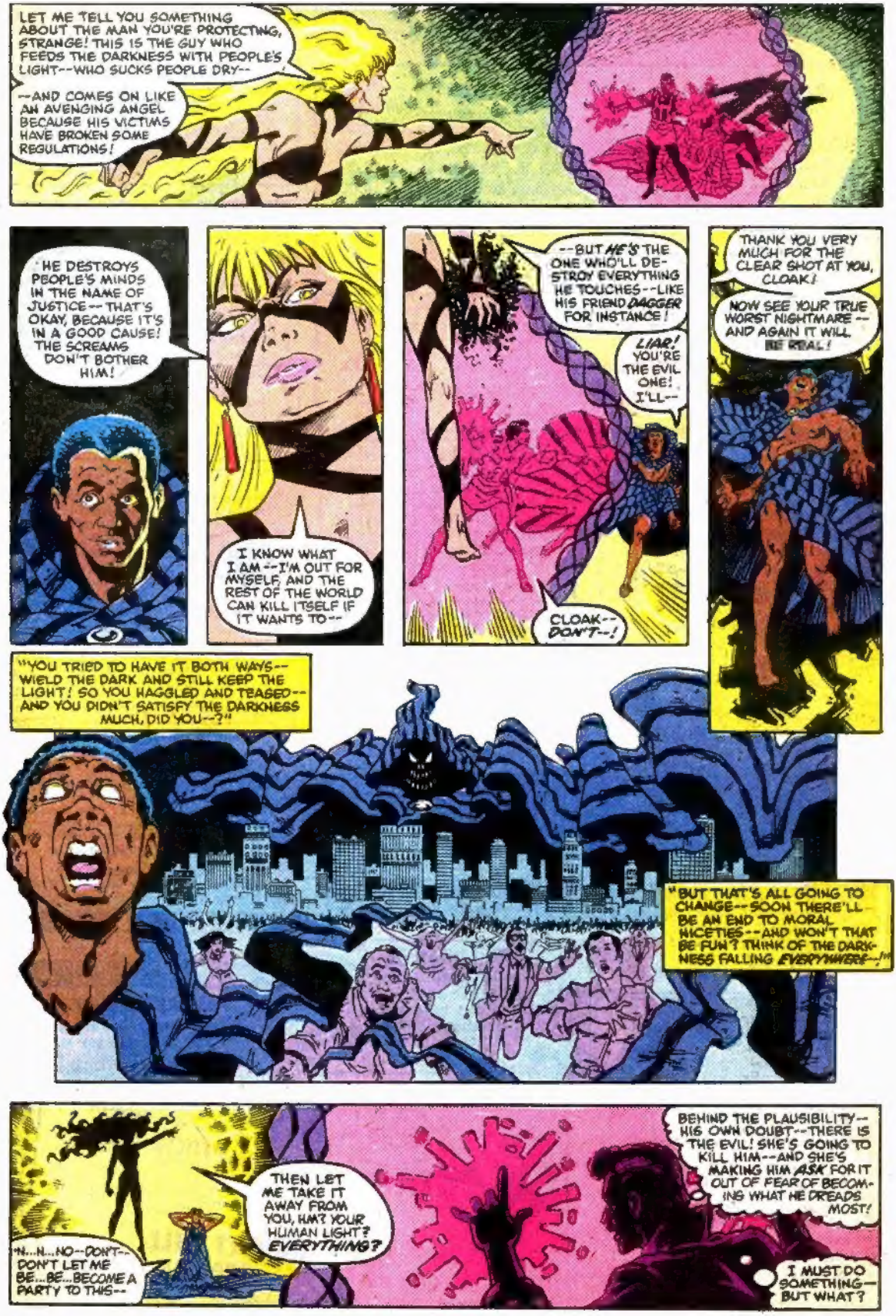


IT IS THE SHADOW THAT CALLS YOU, MURDERER!!
I'VE BEEN SHADOWS, CLOAK, AND THEY DON'T SCARE ME!
NOTHING SCARES ME NOTHING!
THAT-- WE SHALL SEE!
AND FOR A MOMENT, ONE SILENCE REPLACES ANOTHER.
THEN--
NO! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
THE SHADOW-- SWIRLING AROUND ME BY ITSELF! THAT'S IM-POSSIBLE--!
IT-- IT'S GRABBED ME-- IT CAN'T BE!
I CONTROL THE DARKNE
NOOOO

NO LIFE, NO STORY CAN BE THOUGHT OF AS A SIMPLE LINE--ALL TRUE EXPERIENCE IS WOVEN. AND I HAVE STUDIED SUCH WEAVES --FROM THE NORNS, FROM THE GINNUNGA-GHOSTS, FROM THOSE WHO DREAM THE SUNS-- I'VE LEARNED SOME INTERESTING PATTERNS, AND SOME INTERESTING FABRICS.
MASTER WEAVER-- WHAT MATERIAL IS THIS?
THAT? A SUBTLE CLOTH--IT'S WOVEN INTO EVERY FABRIC OF PAIN AND HATRED. IT OFFERS PASSAGE INTO THE WORLD OF SHADOW.
DID I HEAR SOMETHING?
THERE IT IS AGAIN -- FAINT-- BUT HUMAN AND TERRIBLE!
BUT IS IT AN INNOCENT IN DANGER-- OR A DECEPTION? I'M SCARCELY PREPARED --AND YET--
MASTER--I MUST LEAVE YOU. THERE IS SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO--!
OF COURSE --I KNEW WHEN I TASTED YOUR THREAD. I WILL DELIVER THE CLOAK WHEN IT'S DONE
I'M BEING DRAGGED FURTHER FROM MY OWN PURPOSES-- BUT I AM HERE TO ANSWER CALLS LIKE THIS! MY PERSONAL INTENTIONS ARE SECONDARY-- AND ALWAYS WILL BE!
SO HOLD ON, WHOEVER YOU ARE--
--DR. STRANGE IS COMING!

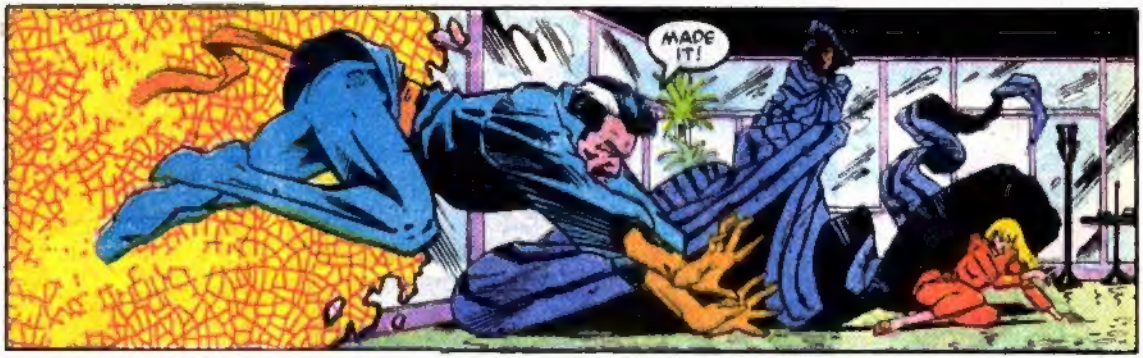

A COSMOS WITHOUT LIGHT AND WITHOUT MASS-- BUT NOT WITHOUT POWER! A WANDERER COULD BE LOST HERE FOREVER--
--BUT THERE IS A SOURCE OF LIGHT IN THE DISTANCE--AND IT'S ALSO THE SOURCE OF THE SCREAMS!
I CAN FEEL THE SHADOWS AROUND ME-- BUT WHISPERS OF DOUBT AND HORROR WON'T FIND UNPREPARED A SECOND TIME.*
*SEE LAST ISSUE.
I AM ON MY GUARD--BUT WHATEVER IS BEHIND THE SHADOWS I SENSE IS CONCENTRATING ON THAT FIGURE, IT DOESN'T SEEM TO REALIZE I'M HERE.
BY THE VIGILANT! WHAT'S GOING ON?
*SEE LAST ISSUE.
LIKE THIS LITTLE OUTFIT I WHIPPED UP FOR MYSELF OUT OF DARKNESS, CLOAK? REMIND YOU OF ANYBODY YOU KNOW?
PLEASE--PLEASE-- WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME? HOW ARE YOU? THE SHA SHADOW WAS MI. MI.. MINE--!
YOURS? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! YOU USED DARKNESS FOR YOUR ENDS-- BUT DARKNESS DIDN'T CARE! IT USED YOU TOO-- BUT ONLY UNTIL SOMETHING BETTER CAME ALONG!
BUT I'M ECSTACY-- AND I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR MORALS OR YOUR INNER TORMENT! THE LIGHT AND THE DARK ARE THE SAME TO ME--I'VE ALWAYS USED BOTH!
I'M A FAR BETTER INSTRUMENT OF SHADOW THAN YOU-- AND YOUR USEFULNESS IS ENDED!
SO THE DARKNESS HAS NOW CHOSEN ME AS ITS PORTAL TO EARTH THUS TURNING YOU HUMAN AGAIN-- AND I'LL LET THE SHADOWS START TO EAT INTO YOUR BRAIN--!
N..N. NO-- PLEASE--!
NOW I'M SUS.. SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE NIGHTMARES IN DARKNESS-- AND THE C..C..COLD?

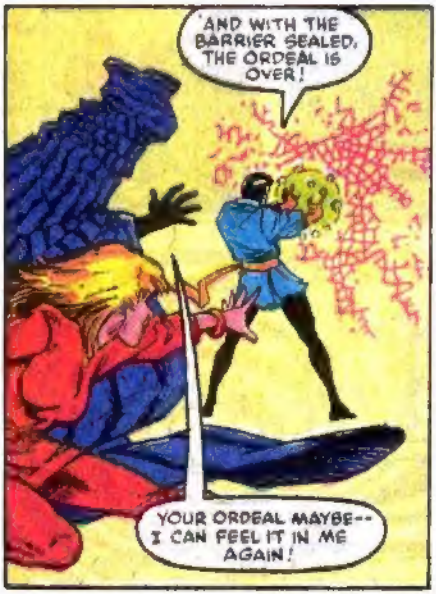

PLEASE -- IT'S SO COLD -- OH LORD, TO BE TRAPPED ALONE IN DARKNESS FOREVER -- IT IS MY WORST NIGHTMARE -- AND IT'S REAL! IT COULD ONLY BE WORSE IF I BECAME A PART O--
I RECOGNIZE THE MAN -- IT'S CLOAK OF CLOAK & DAGGER! BUT WHAT'S THE FEMALE DOING TO HIM?
A VISITOR! IS THE FAMOUS DR. STRANGE A FRIEND OF YOURS, THEN, CLOAK? INTERESTING!
PAY ATTENTION -- BECAUSE I AM ABOUT TO SHOW YOU --
--WHAT THE POWER YOU ONCE HAD CAN REALLY DO!!
YOU ALWAYS USED THE SHADOW GRUDGINGLY -- FED IT LIGHT ONLY ON YOUR TERMS, AFTER YOUR OH-SO-CAREFUL MORAL JUDGMENTS! I GIVE IT AS MUCH AS IT WANTS WITHOUT OVERDOSING IT.
DON'T WORRY, CLOAK. I'LL DEAL WITH HER --!
I DON'T THINK YOU KNOW WHAT SHE'S GOT, DR. STRANGE!
BEHIND ME, CLOAK! I'LL SET UP A SHIELD!
WHAT I'VE GOT IS AS MUCH DARK POWER AS I CAN ASK FOR! YOU WERE SCARED TO TAKE IT, CLOAK. BUT I'M NOT!


LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT THE MAN YOU'RE PROTECTING, STRANGE! THIS IS THE GUY WHO FEEDS THE DARKNESS WITH PEOPLE'S LIGHT--WHO SUCKS PEOPLE DRY--
--AND COMES ON LIKE AN AVENGING ANGEL BECAUSE HIS VICTIMS HAVE BROKEN SOME REGULATIONS!
HE DESTROYS PEOPLE'S MINDS IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE-- THAT'S OKAY, BECAUSE IT'S IN A GOOD CAUSE! THE SCREAMS DON'T BOTHER HIM!
I KNOW WHAT I AM--I'M OUT FOR MYSELF, AND THE REST OF THE WORLD CAN KILL ITSELF IF IT WANTS TO--
--BUT HE'S THE ONE WHO'LL DESTROY EVERYTHING HE TOUCHES--LIKE HIS FRIEND DAGGER FOR INSTANCE!
LIAR! YOU'RE THE EVIL ONE! I'LL--
CLOAK--DON'T--!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE CLEAR SHOT AT YOU, CLOAK!
NOW SEE YOUR TRUE WORST NIGHTMARE -- AND AGAIN IT WILL BE REAL!
"YOU TRIED TO HAVE IT BOTH WAYS-- WIELD THE DARK AND STILL KEEP THE LIGHT! SO YOU HAGGLED AND TEASED-- AND YOU DIDN'T SATISFY THE DARKNESS MUCH, DID YOU--?"
"BUT THAT'S ALL GOING TO CHANGE--SOON THERE'LL BE AN END TO MORAL NICETIES--AND WON'T THAT BE FUN? THINK OF THE DARKNESS FALLING EVERYWHERE--!"
BEHIND THE PLAUSIBILITY-- HIS OWN DOUBT--THERE IS THE EVIL! SHE'S GOING TO KILL HIM--AND SHE'S MAKING HIM ASK FOR IT OUT OF FEAR OF BECOMING WHAT HE DREADS MOST!
I MUST DO SOMETHING-- BUT WHAT?
THEN LET ME TAKE IT AWAY FROM YOU, HM? YOUR HUMAN LIGHT? EVERYTHING?
N...N...NO--DON'T-- DON'T LET ME BE...BE...BECOME A PARTY TO THIS--

COME, CLOAK--I'M TAKING YOUR PLACE--YOUR LIFE! GIVE THEM UP!
PL...PLEASE--!!
THE PROBLEM IS NOT THE WOMAN--SHE'S MERELY ALLOWING IT TO HAPPEN! IT'S THE FORCE BEHIND HER--THAT SOMEHOW FEEDS ON THE LIGHT OF SOULS!
AND I HAVE ONE WEAPON THAT MAY DEFEAT THAT FORCE--THE LIGHT OF AGAMOTTO'S AMULET AT MY THROAT--
--OR IT MIGHT FEED ITS POWER TO AN UNTHINKABLE EXTENT! DO I DARE--I STILL KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT SO MUCH--!
COULD I CAUSE AN EVEN GREATER CALAMITY BY TAKING ACTION WITHOUT FULL KNOWLEDGE? LIKE WITH MY CLOAK EARLIER BUT ON A MUCH LARGER SCALE?
SNAP OUT OF IT--THERE'S A MAN DYING OUT THERE! THE RISK HAS TO BE TAKEN!
LET THE LIGHT OF TRUTH THEN SHINE!
IN A WORLD WHERE SHADOW LIVES, THE BRIGHTEST LIGHT CAN ONLY NARROW AGAINST IT--
NARROW, AND BE ABSORBED--FED UPON--!
NOW I CAN'T DOUBT! LIGHT MUST PREVAIL AGAINST THE DARKNESS!
STRANGE! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

THE DARKNESS... IT--IT'S REJECTING ME! IT'S GONE TO CLAIM YOUR LIGHT!
STOP...!
CLOAK! TAKE ECSTASY AND GO! BACK TO OUR WORLD!
YOU'D SAVE THIS-- THIS--
YES!
I'VE OPENED A DIMENSIONAL PORTAL-- GO!
AND NOW, WHATEVER YOU ARE-- NOW THAT YOU'VE REJECTED BOTH CLOAK'S AND ECSTASY'S LIGHT FOR MINE--LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN HANDLE IT!
AND IF I CAN MAKE IT THROUGH THE PORTAL--
--BEFORE IT REALIZES THE LIGHT OF AGAMOTTO IS MORE THAN IT BARGAINED FOR!
THERE'LL ONLY BE A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE THE--
--STORM--
--BEGINS--!

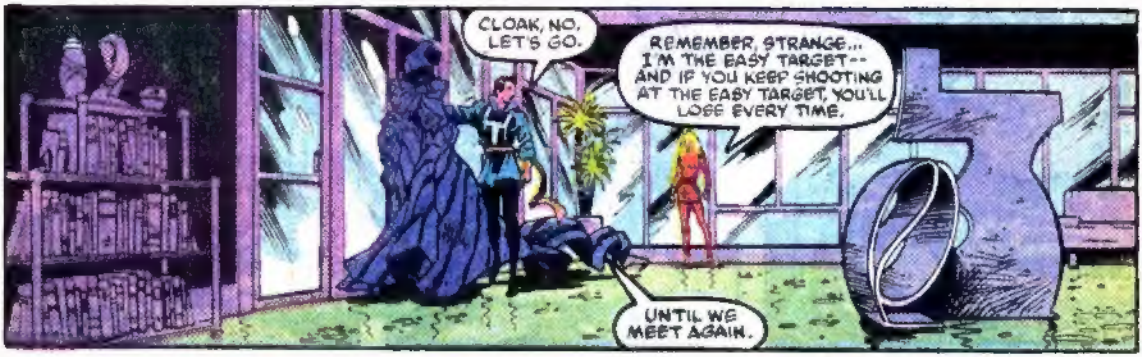

MADE IT!


"AND WITH THE BARRIER SEALED, THE ORDEAL IS OVER!
YOUR ORDEAL MAYBE-- I CAN FEEL IT IN ME AGAIN!

FINE! GREAT! NOW--
--GET OUT OF MY HOUSE!

I'M A BUSINESS-WOMAN ENGAGED IN PRACTICES WHICH BREAK NO LAW! AND YOU ARE GUILTY OF BREAKING AND ENTERING--ASSAULT--
YOU MONSTER! THE POWER OF SHADOW HAS RETURNED TO ME.. IT IS MINE AGAIN, AND I'LL--
CLOAK-- STOP! IF YOU ATTACK HER, THE SAME THING WILL HAPPEN ALL OVER AGAIN.

NO! I WAS GIVEN SHADOW TO TAKE CARE OF FILTH LIKE HER--AND TO HELP DAGGER. ECSTASY WILL NOW FEED THE DARKNESS MY WAY!
DO WHAT STRANGE SAYS! I DON'T FORCE PEOPLE--YOU DO! YOU LASH OUT--MAKE ME THE PROBLEM! DIDN'T YOU SEE IN THERE THAT THE PROBLEM IS YOUR OWN WEAKNESS?
SHUT UP, WOMAN, BEFORE I--


CLOAK, NO. LET'S GO.
REMEMBER, STRANGE... I'M THE EASY TARGET-- AND IF YOU KEEP SHOOTING AT THE EASY TARGET, YOU'LL LOSE EVERY TIME.
UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.